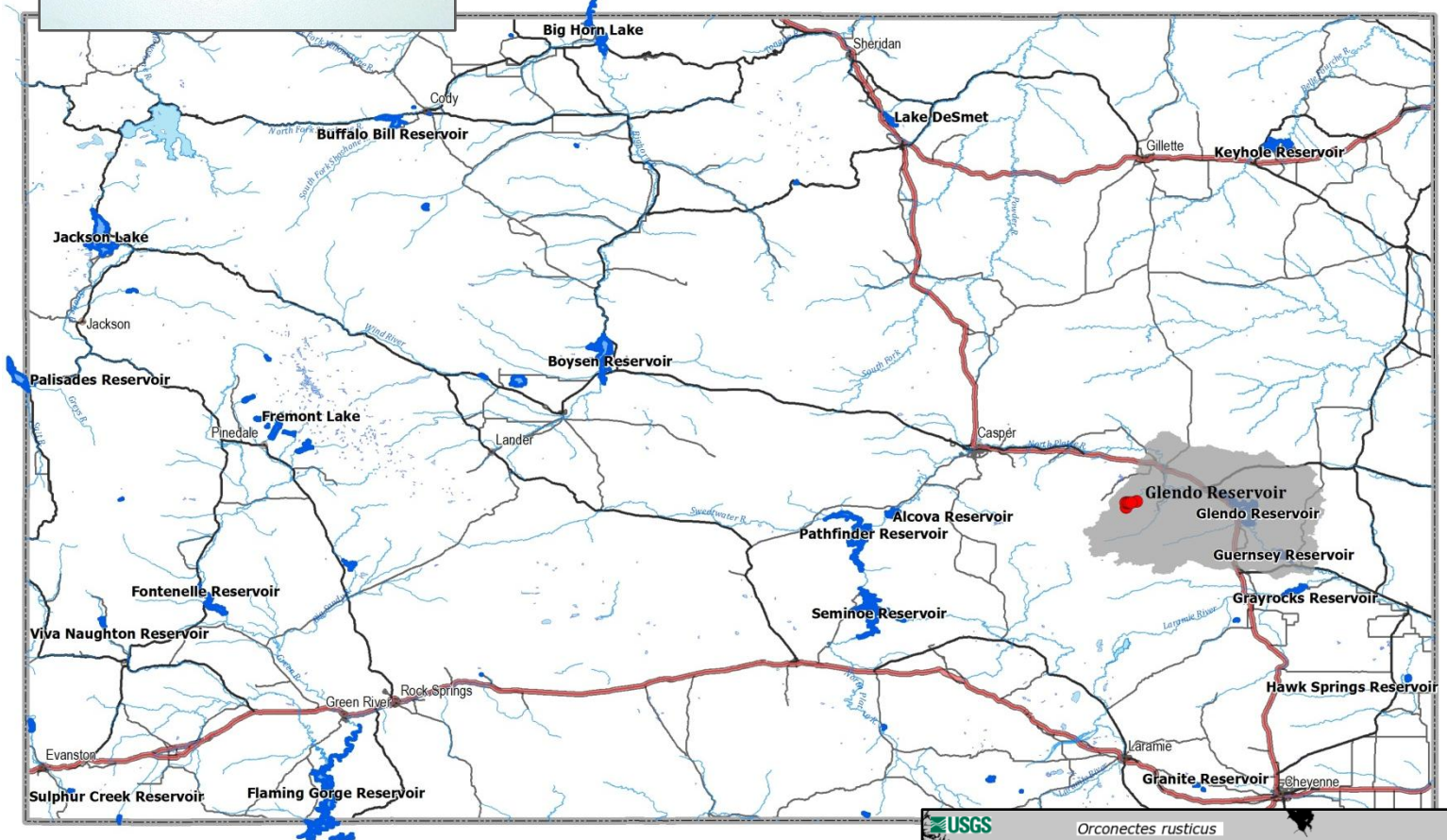
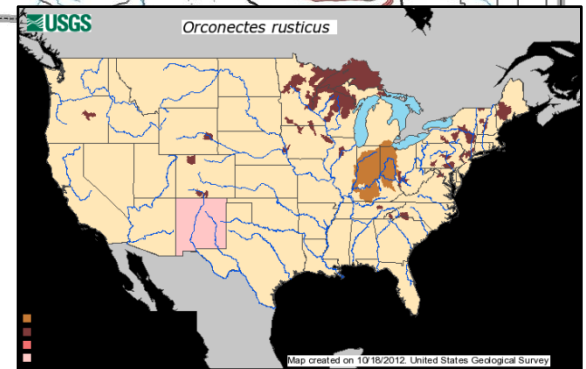


Rusty Crayfish Wyoming Distribution

● Rusty Crayfish ■ Infested Watershed



Rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) are native to the Ohio, Tennessee, and Cumberland drainages in eastern United States. The species has been introduced into 14 other states, most likely by baitfish introductions. Rusty crayfish have the potential to outcompete native crayfish and established populations can destroy plant abundance and diversity. Rusty crayfish are currently present in Wyoming in a North Platte River tributary drainage where they had been illegally stocked. Attempts to eradicate the species in 2006 and 2007 were proven unsuccessful when the species was found below the original treatment area in 2012. A further eradication effort is currently underway. No other populations have been found in Wyoming.



Rusty crayfish have been introduced into new areas by bait or accidental introductions. One female crayfish harboring sperm is capable of starting a new population. While the survivability of fertilized crayfish eggs separated from the female is low, they may be difficult to see and can be transported in standing water.

If you are using rusty crayfish infested waters please remember to:

- ✓ **DRAIN** all water from your gear and equipment. This includes all types of watercraft, waders, boots, clothing, buckets – anything that comes into contact with the water.
- ✓ **CLEAN** all equipment and gear of plants, mud and debris. *Never move a plant or animal from one location to another.*
- ✓ **DRY** everything thoroughly. In Wyoming we recommend drying for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in the spring or fall, or 3 days at freezing temperatures.